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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: October 27, 1995
Subject: North Shore Group Site, Chicago, Illinois
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POLREP No.: POLREP 1
Reporting Period: October 17, 1995 to October 27, 1995
Site No.: VE
Delivery Order No.: 5001-05-377
Response Authority: CERCLA Removal Action (Time Critical)
CERCLIS No.: Not Applicable
NPL Status: Not on the NPL
State Notification: IEPA Notified
Action Memorandum Status: Approved
Start Date: October 17, 1995
Incident Category: Inactive Facility

Site Description:

The North Shore Group site is located at 1420 W. 38th Street, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois (41°49'33.0"N, 87°39'40.4"W). The site consists of an abandoned, 4-story, 200,000 square foot, building with a yard. The site is located in an industrial area and is bordered on the north and west by 38th street, and on the south and east by industrial facilities.

Little is known about the history of the site. City of Chicago, Department of Environment, visited the site on numerous occasions in 1993, documenting the storage of hazardous chemicals (pesticides, methanol) and episodes of scavenging by trespassers. The site building is scheduled for demolition by the City of Chicago.

The site was referred to the U.S. EPA by the City of Chicago, Department of Environment, as a Brownsfield Initiative.

On June 6, 1995, the U.S. EPA and Technical Assistance Team (TAT) performed a site assessment at the North Shore Group site. Observed were scattered drums, small containers, and gas cylinders of methanol, isopropanol, DDT, kepone, pyrethins, lindane, calcium cyanide, methyl bromide and several other miscellaneous pesticides. Graffiti, evidence of vandalism, and deteriorating structures were observed inside and outside the building.

The time critical removal action at the North Shore Group site is necessary to abate the imminent and substantial endangerment to public health and the environment due to the storage of poisonous gas and liquids, banned pesticides and herbicides, and drums of flammable liquids, abandoned in the building on-site.

Situation:

The crew mobilized to site on October 17, 1995 and removal activities continued throughout this reporting period. Weather conditions throughout this reporting period: windy, some rain, with temperatures ranging from 40°F to 70°F.

Removal Activities To Date:

The crew mobilized to site and general site setup commenced: mobilized office trailers, rented generators to supply electricity to trailers and site building, rented a trackloader and bobcat, mobilized necessary supplies to site, and performed general site cleanup. A snow fence was erected around yard and security guard was procured for off hours. The yard was cleaned of debris. A ramp to the entrance door of the building was built. The entrance door was reinforced with wooden beams. Area for transition zone and drum/container staging was cleared and cleaned. A decontamination shed was built in transition zone which could be heated. In the basement, a work area was cleared and lighting was set up. A staging area was set up on the first floor. Disposal bids have been received to incinerate the materials.

A site safety plan was prepared and implemented at the site.

Enforcement:

The on-site building is to be demolished in Fall 1995 by the City of Chicago.

Planned Removal Activities:

The proposed removal actions as stated in the action memo are as follows: develop and implement a site safety plan; secure the site and provide armed security; stage, sample and dispose of the drums, containers, hazardous and non-hazardous debris, decontamination water, in accordance with the U.S. EPA off site rule (58 CFR 49200), decontaminate the building and contents that are clearly impacted by the release of the chemicals found inside and outside the building; sample soil and the underground storage tank contents and dispose of appropriately; sample and dispose of soil appropriately after the demolition of the building.

Next Steps:

- Stage, inventory, and overpack appropriately all containers containing hazardous material.
- Dispose of all hazardous material.

Key issues:

Large quantities of asbestos remain in the building and will have to be removed prior to demolition. U.S. EPA and the City of Chicago will have to meet to discuss removal of this asbestos material.

Cost Information:

| | <u>Costs To Date</u> | <u>Ceiling</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| ERCS Contractor | \$ 1937.42' | \$200,000 |
| TAT Contractor | \$ 4113.20" | \$ 17,500 |
| U.S. EPA | \$ 3600.00 | |
| * as of October 15, 1995 | | |
| ** as of October 24, 1995 | | |